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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

SUBJECT Sabotage of the SOVIETSKI SOYUZ at the Warnow-Werft, Warnemunde

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Volkspolizist Heinz Wack, a guard at Warnow-Werft since July 1953, was assigned to guard duty in the engine room of the SOVIETSKI SOYUZ. Other than three other guards, the only persons on board the ship at that time were a special work crew accruing overtime to be used as leave during the Christmas holidays. Wack left the ship and, returning after an unspecified lapse of time, discovered that the ship was listing 10 degrees to starboard. The list increased after some time to a maximum of 12 degrees. By the time he was back at his post, the fire department had been alerted and the engine room was under water. Approximately 400 tons of water had been released from the starboard anti-roll tanks but, because of a prior removal of part of the pipe system, the water did not flow outside the ship but flooded the engine room and the lower portions of the hull. By the time this was discovered, it was impossible to use the emergency valves to stop the flow of water.

2. It is estimated that 8 to 14 days work will be required to repair the damage and pump out the water from the hull.
3. Immediately following the discovery of the damage, regular Volkspolizei guards were replaced by a 150-man group of SSD from Rostock and all entrances to the wharf were closed. Approximately 60 workers on the ship were taken into custody and interrogated for two days.

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